

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, RO

SUBJECT:1975/76 ROMANIAN GRADUATE STUDENTS

REF: BUCHAREST 0158

1. CU HAS RECENTLY RECEIVED REQUESTS FOR INCREASED STIPEND ASSISTANCE FROM THREE ROMANIANS CURRENTLY IN US UNDER GRADUATE STUDENT PROGRAM (LETTERS BEING FORWARDED EMBASSY.) PROBLEM CAUSED BY FACT THAT THESE THREE (GAVRILA, ILONCA AND SANDRU) ARE NOT ACTUALLY STUDENTS BUT WERE NOMINATED AS SUCH AND ACCEPTED AS SUCH AND THEREFORE RECEIVE STUDENT STIPEND.

2. AS EMBASSY AWARE, THEY ALL HAVE DOCTORAL DEGREES AND WERE TEACHING AT ROMANIAN UNIVERSITIES BEFORE COMING TO U.S. ALL THREE ARE NOW PURSUING RESEARCH PROJECTS IN THE U.S. THE U.S. UNIVERSITIES, UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, DO NOT CONSIDER THEM STUDENTS AND THEY ARE NOT HOUSED IN DORMITORIES. THEIR ONLY RESEMBLANCE TO STUDENTS APPEARS TO BE THE AMOUNT OF THE IIE STIPEND.

3. IIE HAS EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTY IN PLACING THESE "STUDENTS" AND SEVERAL HOST UNIVERSITIES HAVE MADE CLEAR THEIR CONCERN WITH STIPEND LEVEL SINCE "STUDENTS" ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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ENCOUNTERING REAL FINANCIAL HARDSHIPS.

4. FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 1975-76, THEREFORE, WE WOULD EXPECT THE 17 STUDENTS PROVIDED FOR UNDER AGREEMENT (ART 1, SECT 1 OF THE PROGRAM) TO BE BONAFAIDE STUDENTS. IF NOT, WE EXPECT PROBLEMS IN PLACING THEM. (FYI, SUPPORT COSTS FOR A STUDENT AND A RESEARCHER DIFFER AS MUCH AS

DOLS 3500 PER YEAR. EVEN IF WE WERE NOT SIGNATORIES TO AN AGREEMENT, BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS ALONE WOULD MITIGATE AGAINST ACCEPTING STUDENTS AS RESEARCHERS.)

5. FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, AND BECAUSE WE ACCEPTED THESE THREE AS STUDENTS, WE BEAR SOME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR FINANCIAL STRAITS. WE ARE PREPARED TO INCREASE THEIR STIPENDS (BUDGET PERMITTING) IF THE NEW STUDENT STIPEND RATE OF DOLS 375 PER MONTH BECOMES EFFECTIVE.

6. EMBASSY COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE APPRECIATED.

7. CU CONTACTING IIE RE EMBASSY REQUESTS FOR MODIFICATION OF APPLICATION FORMS. KISSINGER

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